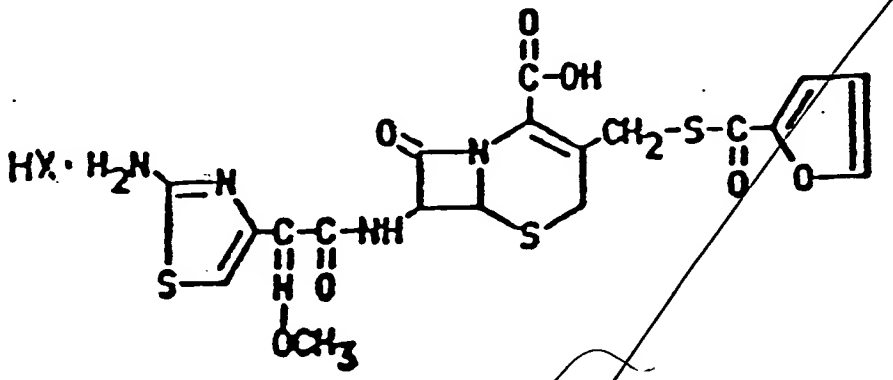
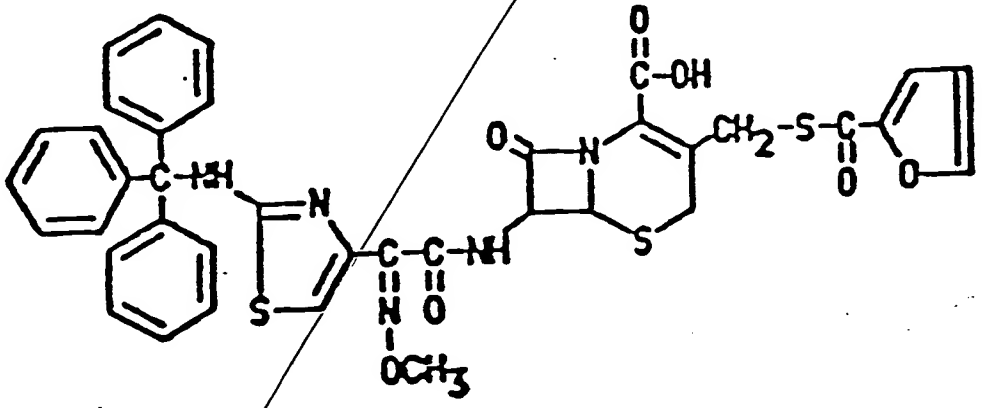
12. A process for preparing a crystalline cephalosporin hydrohalide salt of the formula



(1)

where X is chloride or bromide, which comprises the steps of

(a) treating the N-tritylamino cephalosporin compound of the formula



(3)

with a solution of a polar organic solvent and water and hydrogen halide, where halide is chloride or bromide, in an amount which is at least stoichiometrically equivalent to the amount of the N-trityl compound (3) in the mixture,

(b) heating the mixture from step (a) to a temperature of at least 45°C. and for a time sufficient to effect detritylation,

(c) decreasing the concentration of the polar organic solvent in the aqueous phase of mixture from step (b) to effect formation of crystalline cephalosporin hydrohalide salt (1),

(d) separating the crystalline cephalosporin hydrohalide salt from the slurry mixture from step (c),